

## REMARKS

The Office Action dated January 2, 2008, has been received and carefully noted. The above amendment to claim 1 and the following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response hereto.

In detail, claim 1 has been amended in order to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102. That is, claim 2 has been incorporated in its entirety into claim 1. The dependency of claim 5 is corrected. Reference numerals are being removed from the claims. Claims 2, 4, 8, 10 – 14, 17, and 18 have been cancelled. No new matter is being presented and entry of the amendment is respectfully requested. Claims 1, 5-7, 15, and 16 are pending and under consideration.

### Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 8, 10 and 15-16 as being anticipated by Saito et Al. (JP03261540).

In the last Office Action, the Examiner also stated that claims 2, 12 and 17-18 were objected as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but they would be allowable if rewritten in an independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim.

Claim 1 as currently amended includes all of the limitations of previous claims 1 and 2 (claim 2 was dependent upon claim 1, therefore no intervening claims were needed to be added). Therefore, U.S.C. §102 rejection of claim 1 is moot and claim 1 as currently amended is respectfully considered allowable.

Independent claim 8 has been canceled, and claim 10 (which were in dependence upon claim 8) has been canceled, too. Therefore, U.S.C. §102 rejection of claim 8 is also moot.

### **Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112**

The Examiner rejected that claims 4-7 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject which applicant regards as the invention, since there was insufficient antecedent basis for the limitation "the sharp edge" in claim 4.

Claim 4 has been canceled since, due to the current amendments to claim 1, all the features of claim 4 can already be found in claim 1 as currently amended. Therefore, U.S.C. §112 rejection of claims 4-7 is considered to be overcome.

As a consequence of the deletion of claim 4, claim 5 (which was dependent upon claim 4) has been amended by putting them in dependence of claim 1.

### **Conclusion**

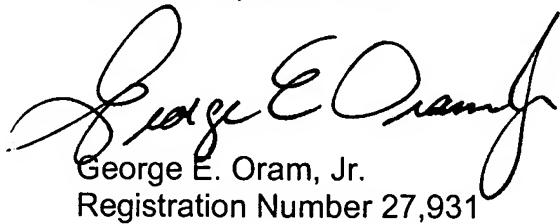
The Applicants respectfully submit that present claim 1 is allowable. Claims 5-7, 15, and 16 depend (directly or indirectly) from independent claim 1. The Applicants further submit that each of these dependent claims incorporates the patentable aspects thereof, and is therefore allowable for at least the same reasons as discussed above. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 and 35 USC §112, allowance of claims 1, 5-7, 15, and 16 and the prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowability.

Applicants' counsel remains ready to assist the Examiner in any way to facilitate and expedite the prosecution of this application.

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below to schedule a personal or telephone interview to discuss any remaining issues.

In the event that this paper is not being timely filed, the Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension, together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account Number 01-2300, referencing Docket Number 023349-00303.

Respectfully submitted,



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